Import of Urea

1478. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether certain Government companies have been made eligible to import urea notwithstanding the existence of the MMTC and STC as the sole canalising agencies for many years.

(b) if so, the details thereof with the date from which departure from the prevalant policy was approved, company-wise;

(c) the reasons for this relaxation in the policy.

(d) the total quantities of urea contracted for import and actually received upto March 31 1996 by each agency, separately;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the policy decision and restore the status-quo-ante and

(f) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The urea imported on Government's account till 1994-95 was entirely canalised through M/s. MMTC Ltd. In October 1994 when MMTC was unable to deliver quantities against requirement a decision was made to give ad-hoc allocations to National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) Pyrites Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL) and Madras Fertilizers Ltd. (MFL) to supplement the efforts of MMTC. In 1995-96 NFL, PPCL and State Trading Corporation Ltd. (STC) alongwith Indian Potash Limited (IPL) were inducted as licencees for import of urea on Government's account with MMTC continuing as the lead canalising agent.

(d) The quantities contracted and actually received by each of the canalising agencies during 1995-96 are given below:

(Qty. in lakh tonnes)

Name of Canalising Agency	1995-96	
	Quantity contracted	Quantity actually received
MMTC	28.81	26.03
STC	6.17	3.09
PPCL	6.75	3.85
NFL	5.76	3.35
IPL	3.37	1.50

(e) and (f). There is no proposal for reverting to the single agency system at present.

Bhadrak and Balasore Railway Stations

1479. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation to improve the facilities and modernise the Bhadrak and Balasore Railway Stations on the South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any demand has been made to stop Rajdhani Express at Balasore Station; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representations pertained to improvement/augmentation of facilities like extension of platform covers, raising of platforms, booking/reservation facilities, foot-over-bridge, remodelling of station buildings.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The demand was considered but not found justified.

Daitri-Bampani Railway Line

1480. SHRI MADHABA SARDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Daitri-Bampani Railway line;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to construct a new railway line between Painkoili and Rourkela keeping in view its importance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Work is in progress on Km. 0-124 of which the first 15 km. section from Banspani to Joruri will be opened this year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Transfer of Catering Contracts

1481. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the policy of the Government the catering/vending contracts can automatically be transferred to the legal heir of the deceased contractor as usual; and

(b) if so, the detailed guidelines in this regard?